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An illustration of the preceding reasoning may be seen in the state of the last fair at Leipzig. The superiority of French manufactures in many instances, and its cheapness in all, was acknowledged. The fine woollens, the calicoes and muslins of France obtained a preference. While much of the British merchandize was slighted on account of its coming on higher terms, and in many instances as being inferior in design and texture, and old-fashioned, from having lain long on hands. Sales were forced, and the British articles were sold for what they would bring.

Failures of two banking concerns have just taken place in London, as well as of some other houses of less magnitude. More will probably follow, as extensive failures draw on others. The failure of one bank, is said to have arisen from the unjustifiable speculation of one of the partners in Spanish wool. Private bankers in London are prohibited from issuing notes. But the issue of the country bankers is enormous, and without any check, except the insufficient one which may arise from their not being able to procure paper of the National Banks to pay theirs. This check is by no means sufficient. The national banks are obliged to lay before parliament, an account of the notes issued by them. A similar obligation on private banks both in Great Britain and Ireland is absolutely necessary, not only that parliament might see the full amount of the circulation of paper, but also that the public might have an opportunity of comparing the quantity of paper issued by each bank, with their apparent property, and thus judging of the safety of accepting their paper in general circulation, and to what amount. A plan is said to be in agitation to enforce a salutary regulation of this kind, and also to compel private bankers to lodge a certain portion of stock in the national banks of England and Ireland, to be forthcoming to answer, if they should be deficient in their engagements; but in the mean time, the interest to be at their own disposal. The bankrupt estate of French's bank, will, it is said, pay a very small dividend.

Those concerned in the linen trade, after a time of supine neglect, appear now aroused to seek redress through a petition to the house of Commons, against the injurious consequences of the act of last session, which laid a duty on bleaching materials, and allowed a drawback on part of them. From the reasons assigned in the last commercial report, the drawback in many instances could not be recovered, and the trade will suffer under a severe burden, unless the tax be wholly repealed.

The subject of tolls engages attention in many places. Among the documents will be found an article on the tolls of the city of Dublin. The taxes of the state are sufficiently heavy. These exactions of *petty tyrants* demand vigorous measures on the part of the people to restrain them within legitimate bounds.

Exchange through this month has seldom exceeded  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

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## CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR DECEMBER, 1814.

On the 5d, the Moon rises under the first of the Lion, and as she rises in the heavens, we perceive, during the morning of the 4th, under her, Jupiter, at some distance, to whom she is directing her course.

On the 7th, the Moon rises under the five stars in triangle of the Virgin and Jupiter, all at some distance from her, and is soon followed by the first of the Vir-

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"Normandy is evidently making very great advances towards outvieing whatever we have in Lancashire, particularly at Rouen. Not half an hour since I have seen in a part of Mr. M's factory, as good mule yarn as can be made; they spin from Brazil cotton, and from all I can learn, sell it to the fabriquants or manufacturers at little more than we could do. They can weave it at considerably less, on account of the wages being so much lower than with us; paying only about 10s. for 10s. 6d. a week to men that in Manchester must have 25s. or 26s. There are in Rouen, 30,000 persons employed in the cotton trade, and in Normandy, altogether 400,000."

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gin, which, from her great northern latitude, she passes at some distance. She will be seen to be about midway between Jupiter and Mars, thus changing the position of the groupe of the preceding morning.

On the 11th is new Moon, at thirty-six minutes past six, afternoon.

On the 15th, the Moon is seen under the two first stars of the Goat, and above Saturn, all to the west of her, and the groupe will amuse the spectator for about two hours after sunset.

On the 19th, the Moon is on the meridian at fifty-nine minutes past five, being under the four stars in square, of which the two eastern are now at a small distance from it to the east.

On the 24th, the Moon is on the meridian at ten, being now within the region of the Hyades, the fifth, or highest eye of the Bull being above her, and below her Aldebaran, both to the east. The Pleiades are of course above her at some distance to the west. At a minute and a half before this time her eastern rim touched the first fourth of the Bull, the star being six minutes and a half south of the centre; and at thirty-eight minutes past ten she passes the second fourth, the first fourth emerging at eleven, the star being ten minutes and twenty seconds south of the centre. At forty-nine minutes past midnight, she passes the fifth, and soon after the line between this star and Aldebaran. She is directing her course to the sixth of the Bull, or tip of the southern horn.

On the 25th, the Moon is on the meridian at eleven, having above and near to her the sixth of the Bull, which suffers an occultation before Moon-set, and still higher, but at some distance from her, but to the west of it, the second of the Bull, or tip of the northern horn. Aldebaran and the Hyades are of course at some distance from her to the west.

The occultation of the sixth of the Bull takes place on the morning of the 26th, at six minutes past four, the star being fifteen minutes and a half north of the centre, and it ends at twenty-five minutes and three quarters past four, the star emerging at the same distance from the centre. In the evening, she rises nearly with the seventh and twelfth of the Twins, as she passes the former of these stars at five, the latter at fifty-six minutes past seven. On this night is full Moon, with an eclipse, which begins at fifty-six minutes past nine, and ends at eighteen minutes and a half past midnight; that is a quarter of an hour after her passage over the meridian. The digits eclipsed are five degrees fifty minutes and a half on the Moon's northern limb.

On the 30th, the Moon rises under the seventh and third of the Lion, but nearest to the former star, the first having risen just before her, and being nearest to her. Her recess from this star and approach towards Jupiter will be marked after midnight.

Mercury is a morning star, stationary on the 7th, and at his greatest elongation on the 16th. The Moon passes him on the 10th.

Venus is in her superior conjunction on the 26th, to which time she is a morning star, but too near the Sun to be discovered. She passes the ecliptic in her descending node on the 14th. The Moon passes her on the 11th.

Mars is a morning star, whose duration above the horizon before sun-rise, is about two hours and a half, and his motion, which is direct through twenty degrees, is marked by sufficiently noted objects. The Moon passes him on the 8th.

Jupiter is on the meridian at sun-rise of the 1st, and at three quarters past six in the morning of the 8th.

*Friend's Evening Amusements.*

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#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Remarks on the question and answer from the Giant's Causeway;" a Tale translated from the French, by a lady; an original letter from Dr. Jebb to Archibald Hamilton Rowan, esq.; and various other communications are deferred to the next number of the Magazine.